

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 190564

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL - INFORMAL

1. OUR PUBLIC AFFAIRS PEOPLE HAVE ASKED US TO UPDATE THE SEPTEMBER 1975 EDITION OF THE BACKGROUND NOTES ON THE USSR. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANY COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS YOU HAVE ON THIS. MORE BREVITY IS DESIRED SINCE THIS REDUCES THE PUBLICATION COSTS. THE REVISED NOTES ARE DUE ON SEPTEMBER 2 AND YOUR INPUT ON DELETIONS, ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS SHOULD IDEALLY REACH US AS SOON AS YOU CAN MANAGE IT.

2. RE YOUR 11548, POLLAK AND BRONSTEIN UNDERSTAND CLEARLY THAT THIS IS A ONE-TIME EXCEPTION. WE DO NOT REPEAT NOT INDICATE TO ANYONE THAT THE EMBASSY CAN BE USED AS A MAIL-BOX AND WE WOULD CERTAINLY CHECK WITH YOU BEFOREHAND IN AN EXCEPTIONAL CASE, AS WE DID IN THE MELCHUK-YACOBSON CASE.
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YOU SHOULD RECOGNIZE, HOWEVER, THAT ONCE YOU ACCEPT MATERIALS OF THIS KIND, IT IS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR US TO TELL INTERESTED PARTIES HERE THAT WE CANNOT TRANSMIT THEM AND THAT THEY WILL BE DESTROYED. IN FUTURE CASES WE SUGGEST THAT YOU EITHER REFUSE TO ACCEPT THEM, OR TELL THE PARTY THAT THE MOST YOU CAN DO IS HOLD THEM FOR LATER

PICKUP AT THE EMBASSY.

3. THE TRADE AND ECONOMIC COUNCIL IS PLANNING TO HOLD ITS DIRECTORS AND MEMBERS MEETINGS THIS FALL IN LOS ANGELES. THEY CHOSE THIS SITE BECAUSE IT WILL BE THE LOCATION OF THE SOVIET SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY EXHIBIT. THE MEETINGS ARE NOW TENTATIVELY SET FOR NOVEMBER 10-11. BLUMENTHAL PLANS TO ATTEND, AND HE WILL BE SENDING AN INVITATION TO PATOLICHEV TO ATTEND AS WELL. THIS WILL PROBABLY BE DONE BY LETTER, TO BE POUCHED TO YOU FOR DELIVERY IN MOSCOW.
CHRISTOPHER

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